(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Collection of direct and all indirect taxes except customs duty has increased during the last three financial years. The decline in customs collection during 2000-01 and 2001-02 is due to negative growth in non-petroleum imports, reduction in import duty rate on petroleum crude, reduction of duty on gold, significant increase in duty foregone under various export schemes etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. Fiscal deficit and revenue deficit have increase due to increase in plan and non-plan expenditure outpacing the increase in revenue receipts and non-debt capital receipts.

(c) The Government has been following a strategy of fiscal rectitude, which aims at higher tax revenue, improved non tax receipts and moderation in the growth of non-plan expenditure, so as to reduce the deficit.

Raids on companies by Central Excise Department

952. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Excise Team has recently raided companies at several places in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and their location;

(c) the amount of tax evasion unearthed as a result thereof; and

(d) further action if any, taken against the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) On the basis of inteligence, investigations for evasion of Central excise duty are undertaken against companies. The premises are searched as per the requirement. The total amount of estimated evasion of excise duty (by the companies) where the premises were searched, for the financial year 2002-2003, is Rs. 115934.50 lakhs. The details of the companies where the estimated evasion of central excise duty works out to

Rs. 20 crore and above, for the financial year 2002-2003, are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the company and location	Estimated evasion of central excise duty (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	M/s Pentafour Industries, Chennai	2500.00
2.	M/s. Rajam Industries, Chennai and Pondicherry	2900.92
3.	M/s. Prime Furnasing Pvt. Ltd., Surat	2000.00
4.	M/s. Prime Poly Weaves Pvt. Ltd., Surat	2000.00
5.	M/s. Pooja Textprint Pvt. Ltd., Surat	2500.00
6.	M/s. L.G. Electronics India Ltd., Noida	4557.00

(d) Appropriate action taken to realize the amount due and other actions against the defaulting companies as per Law.

Issues of PAN Cards

953. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Permanent Account Number (PAN) Cards issued by the Income Tax Department in every State;

(b) whether all the applicants have received their PAN Cards; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Since Income Tax Act is Central Act, State-wise records of PAN are not being maintained in the Income Tax Department. The Department has received 30,062,517 PAN applications upto 30.6.03 out of which 1,273,112 were found defective. Out of the remaining 28,789,405 applications, PAN has been allotted in 28,446,668 cases.

(b) and (c) Receipt of PAN applications and issuance of PAN Cards are ongoing processes and in the normal course, some applications remain in the pipeline.